

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/673,431

Examiner

Hani Kazimi

Applicant(s)

KOBEL ET AL.

Art Unit

3691

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the decision by the Board of patents Appeals and Interferences mailed September 20, 2010.

2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12, 14-19 and 24-27.

3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:

1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____

3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached

1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____

(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____

7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

9. ☐ Other _____

/Hani M. Kazimi/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to the decision by the Board of patents Appeals and Interferences mailed September 20, 2010. Claims 1-27 are pending.

Examiner's Amendment

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR § 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Jialin Zhong on January 12, 2011.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented grants management method for managing a plurality of grants for a recipient received from a plurality of grant sponsors, comprising:

responsive to a transaction request and data associated therewith, converting values of the associated data from a domain of a transaction system to a domain defined for one of the plurality of grants,

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determining if the converted data maps to a classification that has been defined under the one of the plurality of grants to be valid,

if so, determining, based on a set of rules derived from administrative and financial requirements of the plurality of grants and encoded in a database, if the converted data causes a limit defined under the one of the plurality of grants to be exceeded, and

if not, admitting the requested transaction,

otherwise, rejecting the requested transaction.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the domain of the transaction system and the domain of one of the plurality of grants are different.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the domain of the transaction system is the same as the domain of the one of the plurality of grants.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the transaction data in a database in the domain defined for the one of the plurality of grants.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining if a report and/or a bill are due according to a predetermined set of reporting and billing rules;

retrieving transactional data stored in the domain defined for the one of the plurality of grants; and

if the report and/or the bill are determined to be due, generating the report and/or the bill in the domain defined for the one of the plurality of grants.

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6. (Previously presented) An enterprise management system for managing a plurality of grants for a recipient received from a plurality of grant sponsors, comprising:

a transaction management system, operating under a predetermined set of transaction rules and responsive to a transaction request by validating and accepting the transaction,

a grants management system provided in communication with the transaction system and comprising:

an interpretation logic unit to convert values of the transaction request from a domain of the transaction system to a domain defined for grant identified from the plurality of grants,

a dimensional control unit to determine if the converted data maps to a classification that has been defined under the grant to be valid,

an availability control unit to determine, based on a set of rules derived from administrative and financial requirements of the plurality of grants and encoded in a database, if the converted data would cause a limit defined under the grant to be exceeded, and

a database storing converted transaction of the transaction requests that map to valid classifications that do not exceed the defined limits.

7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the database stores the converted transaction in the domain defined for the identified grant.

8. (Previously presented) The system of claim 6, further comprising:

a reporting and billing manager to generate a report and/or a bill when the report is due according to a predetermined set of reporting and billing rules.

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9. (Original) The system of claim 8, wherein the reports and bills are generated in the domain defined for the identified grant.

10. (Previously presented) An enterprise management system for managing a plurality of grants for a recipient received from a plurality of grant sponsors, comprising:

a transaction management system, operating under a predetermined set of transaction rules and responsive to a transaction request by validating and accepting the transaction,

a grants management system provided in communication with the transaction system and responsive to the transaction request by:

converting values of the transaction request from a domain of the transaction system to a domain defined for grant identified from the plurality of grants,

determining if the converted data maps to a classification that has been defined under the grant to be valid,

if so, determining, based on a set of rules derived from administrative and financial requirements of the plurality of grants and encoded in a database, if the converted data causes a limit defined under the grant to be exceeded, and

causing the transaction management system to reject to requested transaction if the limit is exceeded.

11. (Original) The enterprise management system of claim 7, further comprising first and second databases, one provided for the transaction system and the other provided for the grants management system, each storing transaction data of transactions admitted by the grants

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management system, the transaction system's database storing the original transaction data and the grants management database storing the converted transaction data.

12. (Original) The enterprise management system of claim 10, wherein the grants management system comprises a database storing a data cube of aggregated transaction data, the data cube having dimensions for all parameters defined for all grants managed by the grants management system.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) The A computer-implemented method for managing a plurality of grants for a recipient received from a plurality of grant sponsors of claim 13, further comprising:

receiving a transaction request and data associated with the transaction request from a transaction management system of a grant recipient;

determining, based on a set of rules derived from administrative and financial requirements of the plurality of grants and encoded in a database, if the transaction request satisfies the rules imposed by the sponsor,

if so, admitting the transaction request;

otherwise, rejecting the transaction request; and

converting the associated data to a predetermined domain of a grant identified from the plurality of grants.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[13]] 14, further comprising determining if the associated data maps to a valid budget entry for the grant.

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16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising rejecting the transaction request if the associated data maps to an invalid budget entry for the grant.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 14, further comprising determining if the associated data is consistent with a budgetary plan.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising rejecting the transaction request if the associated data is inconsistent with the budgetary plan.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[13]]~~ 14, wherein the administrative and financial requirements from one sponsor is different from the administrative and financial requirements from another sponsor.

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Cancelled).

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[23]]~~ 26, wherein the sponsor and grantee run the grant on different terms.

25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~[[24]]~~ 26, wherein, pursuant to a predetermined set of rules imposed by the sponsor, the reporting and billing manager retrieves

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the transactional data stored in the sponsor's terms, and generates a report and/or bill in the sponsor's terms when it is determined to be due.

26. (Currently Amended) ~~The system of claim 23~~ An enterprise management system for managing a plurality of grants for a grantee received from a plurality of grant sponsors, comprising:

a transaction management system, operating under a predetermined set of transaction rules imposed by a sponsor on the grantee and responsive to a transaction request by validating and accepting the transaction, and

a grants management system of the grantee provided in communication with the transaction system, to determine if the transaction request satisfies the predetermined set of transaction rules imposed by the sponsor, and if so, storing transaction data,

wherein the grants management system comprises:

a reporting and billing manager to generate a report and/or a bill to the sponsor pursuant to a predetermined set of reporting and billing rules and the transaction data, and

wherein the grants management system further comprises:

an interpretation logic unit to convert values of the transaction request from a domain of the transaction system to a domain defined for an identified grant,

a dimensional control unit to determine if the converted data maps to a classification that has been defined under the grant to be valid,

an availability control unit to determine if the converted data would cause a limit defined under the grant to be exceeded, and

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a database storing converted transaction of transaction requests that map to valid classifications that do not exceed the defined limits.

27. (Previously presented) An enterprise management system for managing grants for a grantee received from grant sponsors, comprising:

a transaction management system operating under a predetermined set of transaction rules and responsive to a transaction request by validating and accepting the transaction,

a grants management system provided in communication with a transaction system wherein the transaction system comprises:

an interpretation logic unit to convert values of the transaction request from a domain of the transaction system to a domain defined for an identified grant,

a dimensional control unit to determine if the converted data maps to a classification that has been defined under the grant to be valid,

an availability control unit to determine, based on the predetermined set of transaction rules, if the converted data would cause a limit defined under the grant to be exceeded,

a database storing converted transaction of transaction requests that map to valid classifications that do not exceed the defined limits, and

a reporting and billing manager to submit a report and/or a bill according to a predetermined set of rules.

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hani Kazimi whose telephone number is (571) 272-6745. The examiner can normally be reached Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hani M. Kazimi/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691